

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /063 W

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R 051347Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1062

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3297

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, CS

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET UNION.

1. MORNING PAPERS OF JULY 25 REPORTED THE NOMINATION OF FERNANDO BERROCAL SOTO AS COSTA RICA'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO BE POSTED TO MOSCOW. ONCE A PLN (LIBERATION PARTY) STUDENT LEADER AND PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERACION ESTUDIANTIL DE LA UNIGERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA (ELECTED 1967), BERROCAL PRESENTLY IS COSTA RICA'S ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMISSION OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET, AND AN ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT ODUBER IN INTEGRATION AND MULTINATIONAL CORPS. HE IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN COSTA RICA'S MOSCOW EMBASSY SOME TIME IN SEPT. 1975.

2. BERROCAL, NOW 32 YEARS OLD, WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE COSTA RICAN DELEGATION TO THE 56TH INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE AT INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION'S HEADQUARTERS IN GENEVA IN 1971. HE WAS ALSO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COSTA RICA'S CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES (1970-1972) AND FOR A TIME SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE AFTERNOON DAILY "LA PRENSA LIBRE."

3. BERROCAL'S POLITICAL BELIEFS CAN BE DESCRIBED AS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC. HE WILL HAVE A FUTURE IN LOCAL POLITICS PROBABLY AS A CANDIDATE FOR ASSEMBLY IN 1978. HE DISPLAYS AMBIVALENCE TOWARD THE U.S. OF MANY YOUNG LATIN AMERICAN INTELLECTUALS OF HIS POLITICAL STRIPE. BERROCAL VISITED THE U.S. IN 1974 THROUGH

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THE INTERNVATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM; HE PRIVATELY DESCRIBED HIS

IMAGE OF THE U.S. AT THE END OF THE TRIP AS "LESS NEGATIVE THAN BEFORE." BERROCAL HAS BEEN CULTIVATED HEAVILY BY THE NATIONALIST CHINESE IN SAN JOSE -- HE VISITED TAIWAN ON A GRANT IN 1972.

4. BERROCAL IS MARRIED TO MARIAMALIA BORRASE, DAUGHTER OF THE OWNER OF "LA PRENSA LIBRE." HE HAS HAD NO PREVIOUS DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE. TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 AUG 1975
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Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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Subject: NOMINATION OF COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET UNION.
TAGS: PINR, CS, UR, (BERROCAL SOTO, FERNANDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006